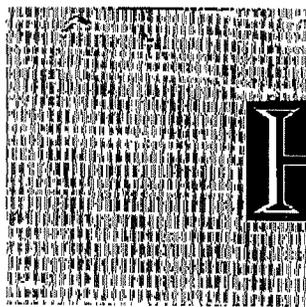


“We are grateful to Governor Daniels and Secretary Roob for their bold leadership and vision on proposing to make real progress in reducing the number of uninsured Hoosiers. They are committed to expand health care coverage which is good for the working poor who can’t afford to purchase health insurance, good for small businesses which struggle to be in a position to provide benefits for their employees, and good for the economical vitality of our state. I look forward to working with Governor Daniels and Secretary Roob to promote their creative efforts to provide health care coverage for the uninsured and vulnerable in our state.”

Matt Gutwien  
President & CEO  
Marion County Health and Hospital Corporation



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**For Immediate Release**

**Date: November 17, 2006**

**Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County  
and Wishard Health Services Support  
Governor Daniels and Secretary Roob's  
Goal of Reducing the Number of Uninsured Hoosiers**

The Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County and Wishard Health Services express their support for Governor Daniels and Secretary Roob's goal of reducing the number of persons without health insurance in Indiana. "We are grateful to Governor Daniels and Secretary Roob for their bold leadership and vision in proposing to make real progress in reducing the number of uninsured Hoosiers," said Matthew R. Gutwein, president and chief executive officer of the Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County.

"Governor Daniels and Secretary Roob are committed to expanding health care coverage, which is good for the working poor, who can't afford to purchase health insurance, good for small businesses, which struggle to be in a position to provide benefits for their employees, and good for the economic vitality of our state," added Gutwein.

**WISHARD**  
**HEALTH**  
**SERVICES**

*Providing Services to the Community Through Wishard Health Services and the Marion County Health Department*



Wishard Health Services' mission is to provide health care to indigent and vulnerable residents of Marion County. Wishard Health Services is the second largest safety-net hospital system in the country, based on the number of outpatient visits. In 2005, Wishard had over 1.2 million outpatient visits. Wishard Health Services is Indiana's largest provider of primary care and specialty care to the uninsured, and operates the state's busiest emergency room and largest ambulance service. Wishard operates one of the state's two Level 1 trauma centers and is the home to a nationally recognized state-of-the-art burn unit. Through its Midtown Mental Health division, Wishard Health Services is the state's largest provider of mental health services. Wishard Health Services is an academic medical center. Pursuant to its long-standing partnership with the Indiana University School of Medicine, Wishard Health Services is the largest venue for the School of Medicine's clinical medical education.

The Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County and Wishard Health Services operate the national award winning Wishard Advantage Program, which provides high quality and cost-effective health care services to indigent and uninsured Marion County residents. The Wishard Advantage Program was started by Secretary Roob when he served as president of the Health and Hospital Corporation of Marion County.

"Wishard continues to see increasing numbers of uninsured patients who are in critical need of health care," stated Dr. Lisa E. Harris, chief executive officer and medical director of Wishard Health Services. From 2004 to the present, the amount of care Wishard has provided to indigent patients has increased by 20%.

"Individuals suffer when they lack health insurance. And our entire community suffers as well," stated Dr. Harris. "Studies show that when a person lacks health insurance, she is less likely

to visit her doctor to receive primary and preventive care. When she becomes sick, she's more likely to delay seeking care. When she finally seeks care, she's sicker and is more likely to visit an emergency room, which is a high cost venue. Her probability for a quick and complete recovery is lower and the hospital's cost of treating her is much higher. Everyone loses when our residents lack health insurance," explained Dr. Harris.

Gutwein and Harris also praise the Governor and Secretary Roob for working collaboratively with the state's stakeholders in crafting the initiative to reduce the number of uninsured Hoosiers. "Secretary Roob has actively sought our input, and that of countless others around the state, and has regularly kept us apprised of his current thinking," stated Gutwein. "I look forward to working with Governor Daniels and Secretary Roob to promote their creative efforts to provide health care coverage for the uninsured and vulnerable in our state," added Gutwein.